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THE Vegetable SITUATION

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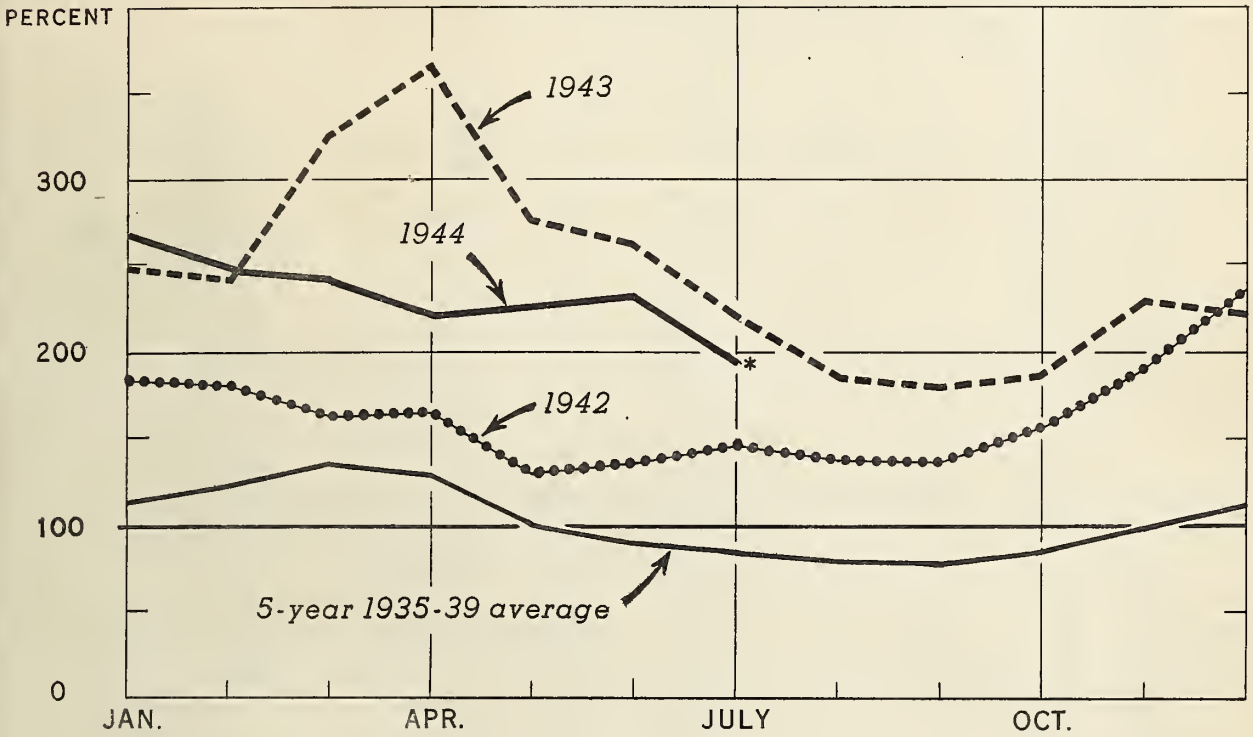
PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS FOR COMMERCIAL TRUCK CROPS FOR FRESH MARKET SHIPMENT, UNITED STATES, AVERAGE 1935-39, ANNUAL 1942-44

INDEX NUMBERS (AUGUST 1909 - JULY 1914 = 100)



* PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 43802 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Prices received by farmers for truck crops for fresh market shipment averaged lower for five of the first seven months of 1944 than in the corresponding period of 1943. However, prices for the first seven months of 1944 averaged about 50 percent higher than in 1942 and a little over twice as high as the 5-year (1935-39) average. If truck crop prices follow the usual seasonal pattern they will be lower during the late summer months, when total supplies of fresh vegetables are the largest of the season.

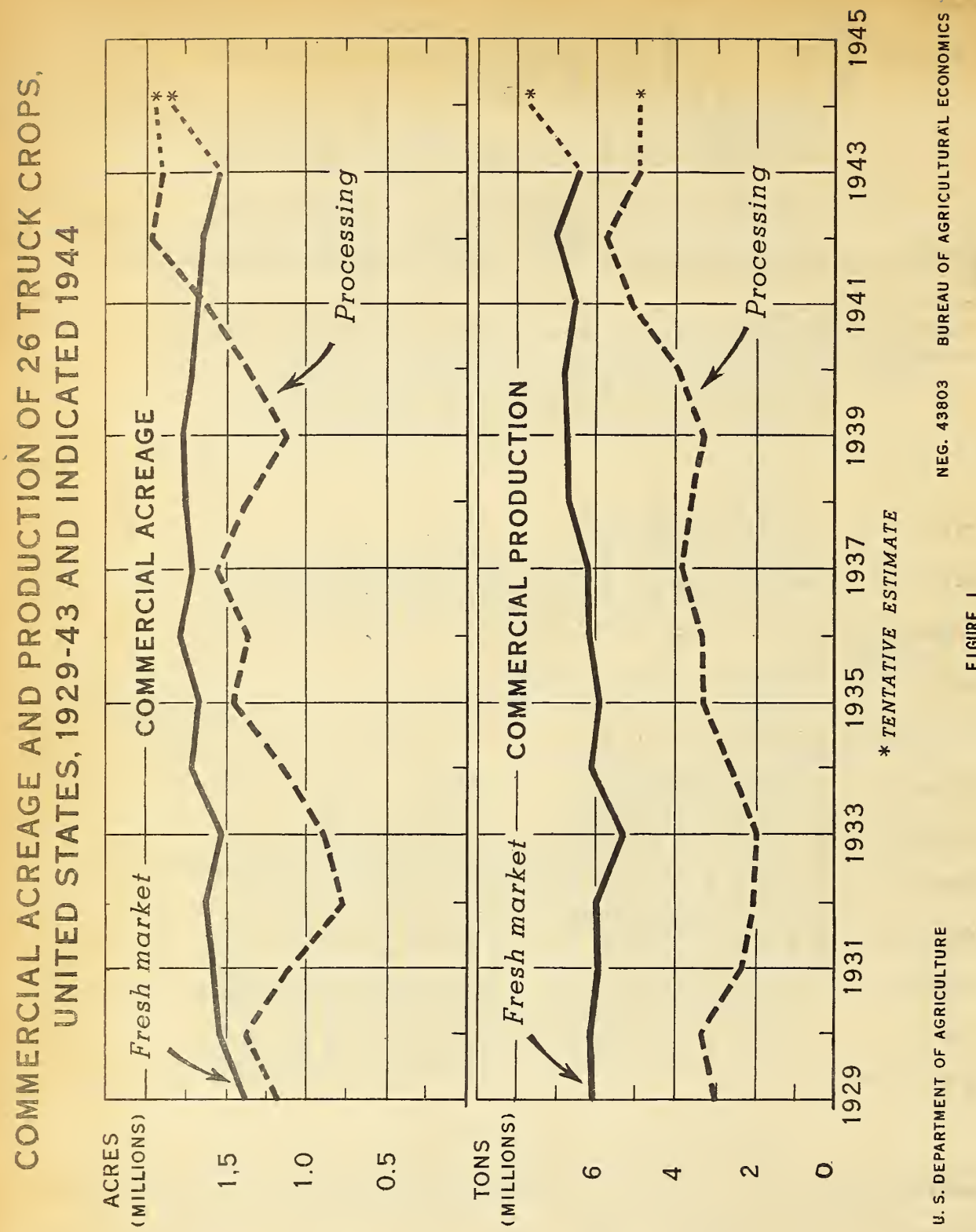


FIGURE I.

The total acreage of 25 commercial truck crops for fresh market shipment increased gradually from 1929 to 1936, remaining at or near the 1936 level until 1939 after which there was a successive decrease each year until 1943. But the aggregate production of truck crops for fresh market has been relatively stable, because increased yields of recent years have offset the decreased acreage. The expected 1944 acreage and production set new highs for fresh market truck crops.

Acreage and production of 11 vegetables for processing has fluctuated considerably but increased most sharply from 1939 to 1942, in response to war needs. The 1944 production is expected to be approximately as large as in 1943.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

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Summary

This year's total vegetable production is now expected to be a trifle larger than last year. Fresh market vegetables may be about a fifth larger, truck crops for processing about the same, and field vegetable crops--potatoes, sweetpotatoes, dry beans, dry peas--a little smaller.

Total production of 25 fresh market vegetables may be 15 to 20 percent larger this year than last. The aggregate production of summer season fresh vegetables estimated to date is 13 percent larger than last season and 9 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. Prices received by farmers for truck crops for fresh market are expected to follow the usual downward seasonal movement through September, although the general level of such prices may be only slightly lower than that prevailing during the summer of 1943.

The 1944 tonnage of 11 commercial truck crops for processing is expected to be about as large as in 1943. The total pack of canned vegetables and vegetable juices of the 1944-45 season may be slightly larger than the 212 million-case pack of 1943-44. Prospective civilian per capita supplies, however, will be less in 1944-45 than in 1943-44. The 1944 pack of frozen vegetables is expected to be about 20 percent larger than the 1943 pack of

230 million pounds. Production of dehydrated vegetables also is expected to be considerably larger than in 1943.

A crop of 399 million bushels of potatoes is in prospect for 1944, 14 percent smaller than the 1943 record crop, but 10 percent larger than the 10-year average. Prospective civilian supplies are somewhat smaller this season than last. Recent f.o.b. prices indicate a level slightly higher than a year earlier.

The 1944 crop of sweetpotatoes is expected to total 66.4 million bushels, a near-average crop but 9 percent smaller than the 1943 crop. Prospective civilian per capita supplies are the smallest in two decades.

Production of dry edible beans in 1944 is indicated at 19.4 million bags, 8 percent less than in 1943. Civilian per capita supplies are expected to be somewhat smaller during the 1944-45 season than in 1943-44. The 1944 crop of dry field peas is expected to total 9.8 million bags, 10 percent less than the 1943 crop.

Prices received by farmers for the 1944 crops of potatoes, sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas will be greatly conditioned by the price support programs for these crops and, in the case of potatoes and sweetpotatoes, by recently announced ceiling prices.

During the 35-year period 1909-43, civilian per capita consumption of fresh truck crops increased over one-fourth, reaching a high of 251 pounds in 1942. During the same period, civilian per capita consumption of commercially packed canned vegetables more than doubled, reaching a peak of 39.7 pounds in 1942. Civilian per capita consumption of frozen vegetables increased from 0.4 pound in 1937 to 1.1 pounds in 1942.

Civilian per capita consumption of potatoes decreased about one-fourth during the 35-year period 1909-43, decreasing to an annual average of 131 pounds for the 5-year period 1935-39. During the same 35-year period, per

capita consumption of sweetpotatoes decreased about one-tenth, averaging 24 pounds in 1935-39, whereas that of dry beans increased about one-third, averaging 8.8 pounds in 1935-39.

-- July 27, 1944

TRUCK CROPS FOR FRESH MARKET

Background, 1929-43

The aggregate annual production of commercial truck crops for fresh market shipment has been relatively stable during the past six years. In this period, from 1938 through 1943, the total aggregate production ranged between 6.5 million and 7 million tons annually. This was around 10 percent higher than the general level of production for the period from 1929 through 1937, when, with the exception of 1933, the annual production was close to 6 million tons. The acreage of commercial truck crops for fresh market reached a peak of 1,793,000 acres in 1936. There was a decrease from a level of 1,775,000 acres in 1939 to 1,559,000 acres in 1943. Total production, however, was fairly well maintained during this period as a result of increased yields per acre.

Prices received by farmers for commercial truck crops for fresh market, which were relatively favorable during the decade of the 1920's, declined sharply from 1930 to 1932 and remained relatively low until 1941, when increasing demand, resulting from increased purchasing power and Government requirements, brought about higher prices for vegetables. Prices during most of 1943 were more than double the 1935-39 average, and in the spring of that year were unusually high. Farm wage rates in the United States for 1943 were also more than double the 1935-39 average. Hired labor is one of the most important items of cash expense on commercial truck crop farms.

The Government has extended assistance to growers of fresh vegetables through encouragement of movement through normal channels of trade, diversion of surplus fresh vegetables to processing channels and purchase of surplus fresh vegetables for distribution through Government channels. Purchases have been made particularly during periods of excessive market supplies in an effort to facilitate the market movement. During the past year, fresh market vegetables purchased in this program included dry onions, snap beans, lima beans, beets, cabbage, carrots and spinach.

Record Production of Truck Crops Expected in 1944

Estimates made to date point to a record production of fresh market vegetables during the 1944 season. The total production for the season may be as much as 15 to 20 percent larger than for the 1943 season.

The winter season crop (harvested during January, February and March) was 36 percent larger than a year earlier. Weather conditions were favorable and yields for most crops were good. The 1944 winter production was 52

percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average and was obtained on an acreage only 27 percent above the 10-year average. Prices received by farmers in January and February were higher than in 1943 but in March were much lower than the unusually high prices of March 1943.

The 1944 spring crop of fresh market vegetables averaged 15 percent larger than the 1943 crop. Yields were slightly better than average with the 12 percent larger than average crop being obtained on an acreage only 6 percent larger than average. Prices during this season were a little more than double the pre-war 1935-39 average but much lower than in 1943.

Summer Production of Vegetables
Larger than a Year Earlier

The aggregate production of summer season vegetables estimated to date is 13 percent larger this season than last. It is expected that this production, which is 9 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average, will be obtained on an acreage about the same as the average. Increases in production over a year earlier are expected for all crops except carrots, tomatoes, and late summer snap beans. About average production is expected for beets and early summer cantaloups.

Total carlot shipments of vegetables for the three-week period ended July 15 were nearly 50 percent larger than for a similar period a year earlier. Increases in watermelons and cantaloups accounted for more than half of the increase of total shipments in this period. Shipments of lettuce and onions were considerably larger than a year ago, but shipments of tomatoes were slightly smaller for the three weeks period.

Prices received by farmers for truck crops for fresh market are expected to follow a downward seasonal movement through September. It seems probable, however, that the general level of such prices will be only slightly lower than that prevailing during the summer of 1943. Maximum price regulations will tend to prevent the prices for some vegetables from reaching the levels of a year earlier. The average price of 11 important vegetables on the New York wholesale market for the week ended July 22, 1944, was 6 percent lower than for the same vegetables for the corresponding week a year earlier.

Snap Beans

Prices for snap beans on the New York wholesale market declined sharply during the last week of June and the first week of July. For the week ended July 8, the average price was lower on the New York market than for any week this year or during 1943. Purchases were made by the Government during this period in an effort to facilitate market movement. These low prices reflect the larger early summer crop, which is estimated to be about 14 percent larger than a year ago and nearly 60 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average production. A slightly larger acreage and good yields per acre accounted for this increase in the early summer crop. Higher prices may be anticipated for the late summer crop of snap beans, the production of which is expected to be about 18 percent smaller than for the same season of 1943.

Cabbage

Prices received by farmers for cabbage were unusually high during the winter and spring months of 1943, the average price for the peak month of April being around $90 per ton. Prices the past winter and spring, although considerably higher than in 1942, have been following about the same seasonal movement as in that year. The April price for this year averaged around $32 per ton or nearly two-thirds less than a year earlier. The lower prices prevailing during the first part of this year reflect the larger available supplies. The total winter and spring production for 1944 was estimated at 627,000 tons or nearly two-thirds more than in the same period in 1943.

Prices for cabbage on the New York wholesale market broke sharply during the last week of June as a result of increased supplies. By mid-July, however, prices had recovered considerably. Some Government purchases were made during the first part of July to improve marketing conditions. Production of cabbage for the early summer season is estimated to be about 16 percent larger than a year earlier and 20 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. Although the late summer crop is estimated to be 17 percent larger than last year, it will be 12 percent smaller than the 10-year average. The acreage of the early fall crop is expected to be about one-fourth larger than a year earlier, and the late fall acreage slightly smaller than the preceding year.

Maximum prices for cabbage (MPR 426, Amendment 38, July 6, 1944) effective for the period July 1 through September 30, 1944, for three territorial zones are 3.3 cents, 3.0 cents, and 2.7 cents per pound for Zones I, II, and III, respectively, for sales delivered to any wholesale receiving point in any quantity. The maximum price f.o.b. shipping point is the appropriate zone price less the actual cost to the buyer of protective services and freight from the shipping point to the wholesale receiving point.

Tomatoes

Supplies of tomatoes during the winter and spring months of 1944 have been larger than in the same period of 1943, resulting in lower average prices to farmers this year. It is probable, however, that prices during the summer of this year will average as high as or higher than in 1943 due to the fact that early summer and late summer crops are expected to be slightly smaller than a year earlier.

Cantaloups

Carlot shipments of cantaloups during the three-week period ended July 15 were 90 percent larger than for the similar period a year earlier. Market supplies should continue plentiful during the remainder of the summer. Midsummer production this year is expected to be about 40 percent larger than last, and the late summer acreage is estimated to be 27 percent larger than last year.

Maximum prices for cantaloups and honeyball melons effective for the period July 26-November 26, 1944, are contained in MPR 426, Amendment 36,

July 6, 1944. The maximum price f.o.b. shipping points in California and Arizona for the standard crate with a net weight of 68 pounds or more is $2.30. Maximum prices f.o.b. shipping point for cantaloups and honeyball melons are effective for the same period in five other groups of States, and for the standard crate these prices range from $2.60 for Colorado, New Mexico, Texas and Utah to $3.30 for Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and New York.

Onions

Onions should be on the market in good supply during most of the remainder of the year. The early summer crop, increased by good yields, is considerably larger than last year. The total late summer acreage is estimated to be around one-third larger than last year and also one-third larger than the 10-year average.

Maximum prices for onions established by the Office of Price Administration (RMPR 271, Amendment 17, July 4, 1944) for the period July 15 to August 15, 1944, vary from $1.80 to $2.00 per 50 pounds in bags loaded on carrier at country shipping point, for different groups of States. For the same groups of States the maximum prices for August 16-October 31 range from $1.50 to $1.80 per 50 pounds. After October there is a gradual increase for the late fall and winter months. These maximum prices compare with $2.35 for all producing areas for the period June 16 to July 15, 1944. For the month of August 1943, maximum prices on onions ranged from $1.45 to $1.70 for the different groups of States. Because of the large crop of onions this year there probably will be only a few times during the summer months when the ceiling prices will hold down the price of onions.

TRUCK CROPS FOR PROCESSING

Big Increase in Truck Crops for Processing Since Start of the War

The production of commercial truck crops for processing has increased sharply since 1939. To insure that the increased demands for processed vegetables, arising from the war effort, would be met, the Government inaugurated specific price-support programs designed to reflect higher prices to growers for the more important processing vegetables. The acreage of green peas, for example, increased from a 5-year (1935-39) average of 305,300 acres to 436,080 acres in 1943, an increase of about 43 percent. In the same period of time, the acreage of snap beans increased 178 percent, sweet corn, 40 percent, and tomatoes, 32 percent. The total acreage of 11 truck crops for processing in 1943 was 38 percent larger than the 5-year average, and the aggregate production was 42 percent larger.

The supplies of canned vegetables for civilians increased considerably during 1941 and 1942. Increased military and Government requirements in 1943 reduced the supplies of canned vegetables available to civilians to about the level of consumption existing in the pre-war 1935-39 period. At the same time, however, civilian demand was considerably higher than the pre-war demand due to increased purchasing power.

1944 Production of Truck Crops for Processing Expected to be about as Large as in 1943

The aggregate tonnage of truck crops for processing for 1944 is expected to be about as large as in 1943.

The total pack of canned vegetables and vegetable juices for 1944 is expected to be somewhat larger than the 212 million-case pack of 1943. It is expected that there will be a slight increase in the pack of the big four vegetable group (tomatoes and products, peas, sweet corn, and snap beans) this year compared with last year. The total pack of these four vegetables last year was 164 million cases or 77 percent of the total pack of canned vegetables.

Although the total pack of canned vegetables is expected to be larger this year than last, increased requirements for the military and other Government agencies will leave less for civilians than was available last year. Per capita supplies of canned vegetables for civilians for the 1944-45 season are estimated to be about 4 percent less than in 1943-44. The total pack of frozen vegetables in 1944 is expected to be about 20 percent larger than the 230 million-pound pack of 1943. The total production of dehydrated vegetables in 1944 is also expected to be considerably larger than in 1943.

Snap Beans

The production of snap beans for processing in 1944 is estimated at 274,400 tons or about 5 percent larger than in 1943. Considerable increases in production are expected in Arkansas and Oklahoma. Production in Florida is expected to be about one-third less than in 1943. Support prices for the 1944 crop are the same as those in 1943, when the average price received by farmers was $93.90 per ton.

Green Peas

A pea crop of 402,940 tons is expected for 1944. This would be only about 2 percent less than last year's crop and about 5 percent less than the record 1942 crop. In New York State a crop about double last year's short crop is expected. The average price received by growers in 1943 was $80.03 per ton. Changes made in support prices for 1944 will probably increase the average U. S. price received by growers by about one dollar per ton.

Tomatoes

The planted acreage of tomatoes for processing, of 605,650 acres, is only one-half of one percent larger than that planted in 1943. A considerable increase in acreage is indicated for California, Pennsylvania, and Ohio as compared with 1943, while considerable decreases in acreage are expected in Arkansas, Tennessee, Missouri, Virginia and Maryland. The average yield last year was 4.8 tons per acre or nearly 10 percent less than the 5.3-ton yield of 1942. The condition of tomatoes on July 1, 1944, was 82.3 percent of normal compared with 81.6 percent a year earlier. A pack of tomatoes and

tomato products larger than last year's 76.8 million cases is expected for 1944. The average price received by farmers in 1943 was $26.14 per ton. Adjustments in support prices for certain States are expected to result in an increase of about one dollar per ton in the average price received by farmers in the United States, as compared with 1943.

Sweet Corn

A 5 percent reduction from the 1943 acreage of sweet corn for processing is expected in 1944. Yields per acre in 1943 were only slightly above average and about 14 percent less than the 1942 yield. The condition of the crop on July 1, 1944, averaged 84.6 percent of normal compared with 80.6 a year earlier and 83.8 for the 10-year average. The price received by farmers in 1943 averaged $18.36 per ton. Adjustments in support prices may raise the U. S. average price in 1944 by about one dollar per ton.

POTATOES

Background

Annual production of potatoes in the United States during the past two decades has fluctuated around a level of approximately 360 million bushels. The 10-year (1933-42) average production was 363 million bushels, and the 1943 crop amounted to 465 million bushels, the largest on record. Because of abnormal demand, supplies were short during April and May 1943, but since that time have been adequate for all purposes.

Although production has fluctuated around a constant level during the past two decades, per capita consumption has declined with the increase in population. Annual civilian per capita consumption declined from a level of about 160 pounds in the early 1920's to a level of about 130 pounds in the late 1930's and early 1940's.

The trend in price per bushel received by farmers has been moderately downward during the 1920's but slightly upward during the 1930's. Since 1940, prices have moved sharply upward, rising from a season average price of 54 cents for the 1940 crop to a price of $1.30 for the 1943 crop.

1944 Crop Indicated at 399 Million Bushels

Total production of potatoes in the United States in 1944 is indicated at 399 million bushels, based on the July 1 condition. A crop of this size would be 14 percent smaller than the record large crop of 1943 but still 10 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. Both acreage and yield per acre are smaller this year than last. Most of the decrease in prospective production this year is in the 18 surplus late States, where a crop of 284 million bushels, or 44 million less than last year but still 34 million more than the 10-year average, is indicated. Production in the 7 intermediate States, which provide most of the potato supplies during the summer months, is indicated to be 27.2 million bushels compared with 34.8 million last year and 31.4 million for the 10-year average. Production in the 12 early States is estimated at 54 million bushels, 18 percent less than last year but 26 percent more than average.

Prospective Civilian Supplies Smaller This Season than Last

Prospective civilian per capita supplies of potatoes for the 1944-45 season are considerably smaller than the relatively large supplies available in the preceding season. They point to a civilian per capita consumption of about 120 pounds this season, which is about 10 pounds less than the 5-year (1935-39) average consumption, and which is probably 10 to 15 pounds less than last season, when not all of the supplies available to civilians were consumed by them. Unless consumption from this summer until next spring is at a somewhat lower rate than for the same period last season, there will be a temporary short supply of potatoes in the spring of 1945.

Supplies of potatoes are expected to be generally adequate throughout the summer. During this season supplies are drawn mainly from the intermediate States, of which the production does not lend itself well to winter storage and hence must be consumed shortly after harvest. The late crop provides the storage stocks for use throughout the fall, winter, and early spring -- hence it will be important to extend the consumption of this late crop, which also provides the main supplies of seed potatoes, until plentiful supplies of new potatoes are available next spring.

Recent Prices Unsteady

Farmers received an average of $1.25 per bushel for potatoes June 15, 1944, 9 cents less than a month earlier and 59 cents less than a year earlier. Prices at various country shipping points advanced moderately from mid-June to early July, but since then have tended to decline slightly. For example, the price per 100 pounds for U. S. No. 1 Cobbler potatoes at Onley, Virginia, advanced from $2.75 for the week ended June 17 to $3.16 for the week ended July 1 and then declined to $2.98 for the week ended July 22. This price of $2.98 per 100 pounds for the week ended July 22, 1944, compares with $2.44 for the corresponding week a year earlier. Prices on the New York City wholesale market followed the same course.

Ceiling Prices in Effect for 1944 Crop Potatoes

Prices for 1944 crop potatoes will be governed by support prices and ceiling prices. The price-support program, which was reviewed in the April 1944 issue of "The Vegetable Situation," provides support to prices at levels slightly higher than those for the 1943 crop. Maximum prices for the 1944 crop of potatoes from July 15 to the end of the season have been established recently by the Office of Price Administration through Amendment 18 to Revised Maximum Price Regulation 271. In general, the prices are the same as those for the 1943 crop. Ceiling prices per 100 pounds of U. S. No. 1 potatoes of the 1944 crop, sacked and loaded on carrier at country shipping points, in the Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota, for example, decrease monthly from $2.50 for the period July 15-31 to $2.05 for October, 1944, and then increase monthly to $2.65 for May and June 1945, and later. Prices will tend to be between the ceiling price and support-price levels. For example, in October, with a ceiling price of $2.05, and a support price of $1.80 for U. S. No. 1 potatoes, prices for this grade could be expected to be within those limits, a range of 25 cents per 100 pounds or 15 cents per bushel.

SWEETPOTATOES

Background

Production of sweetpotatoes in the United States has fluctuated widely during the past two decades, ranging from a low of 45 million bushels in 1924 to a high of 86 million in 1932. The 10-year (1933-42) average production was 67 million bushels, and the 1943 crop amounted to 73 million bushels.

The trend in civilian per capita consumption of sweetpotatoes has been moderately downward during the past two decades. Civilian per capita consumption declined from a level of about 30 pounds in the early 1920's to a level of about 20 pounds in the early 1940's. It amounted to about 22 pounds during the 1943-44 season.

The trend in price per bushel of sweetpotatoes received by farmers has been moderately downward during the 1920's but slightly upward during the 1930's and early 1940's, a behavior similar to that for white potatoes. The season average price per bushel received by farmers was $1.65 for the 1925 crop, 54 cents for the 1932 crop, $1.24 for the 1942 crop, and $2.11 for the 1943 crop.

Near-average Crop of 66.4 Million Bushels of Sweetpotatoes in Prospect

The 1944 crop of sweetpotatoes is indicated to be 66.4 million bushels, based on July 1 condition, or 9 percent smaller than the 1943 crop and 1 percent smaller than the 10-year (1933-42) average. The smaller crop in prospect this year compared with last is the result mainly of reduced acreage but also of a lower average yield because of unfavorable growing conditions. Prospective civilian per capita supplies for the 1944-45 season are the lowest in two decades, being about equal to the 18 pounds consumed in 1924-25.

New Crop Sweetpotatoes Now Moving to Market

Harvest of this year's crop of sweetpotatoes is now under way in the Southern States. A total of 42 cars were shipped, mostly from Alabama, during the week ended July 15. Chicago wholesale prices for new stock Triumph sweetpotatoes from Alabama averaged $5.04 a bushel for the week ended July 22, 1944, compared with $5.02 for the corresponding week last year.

Maximum Prices Established for 1944 Crop Sweetpotatoes

Maximum prices for the 1944 crop of sweetpotatoes, all sales except retail, have been established by the Office of Price Administration through Amendment 40 to Maximum Price Regulation 426. This amendment is effective July 15, 1944, for sales f.o.b. country shipping point, and July 25, 1944, for all other sales. Maximum prices at country shipping points for sweetpotatoes, packed in bushel containers, containing not less than 50 pounds if green, and 45 pounds if cured, vary by zones composed of the four major

producing areas, and by months. In other areas there are no f.o.b. maximum prices. Maximum prices are lowest for Zone I, consisting of Louisiana and Texas, and highest for Zone IV, consisting of California. Monthly variations for Zone I, for example, are as follows: July 15-Aug. 31, 1944, $3.05; Sept. 1-15, $2.50; Sept. 16-Oct. 31, $1.90; Nov. 1-15, $2.20; Nov. 16, 1944-Jan. 31, 1945, $2.60; Feb., $2.70; Mar. $2.90; April, $3.00; and May-June, $3.15. The regulation also provides for uniform ceiling prices in any wholesale market, and specific wholesale mark-ups. It is expected to result in substantially lower prices than those prevailing in 1943, which were frozen at mid-season after they had reached a high level. Minimum prices for sweetpotatoes are provided through the price-support program described in the April 1944 issue of "The Vegetable Situation."

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

1944 Crop of Beans Indicated at 19.4 Million Bags

A dry edible bean crop of 19,358,000 bags (bags of 100 pounds, uncleaned is in prospect for 1944, based on July 1 condition. This is 8 percent smalle than the record large 1943 crop of 21, 123,000 bags but 28 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average of 15,133,000 bags. Plantings in importan producing States generally were smaller this year than last, Michigan being the notable exception. The most notable increases in production this year over last are in Michigan and New Mexico.

June 1 Stocks Larger This Year Than Last

Stocks of dry beans June 1, 1944, consisted of 4,258,000 bags of cleaned beans stored in usual commercial storage places and War Food Administration storage places in producing States but not in direct consumption channels, and 726,000 bags of uncleaned beans on farms. Comparable stocks a year earlier were 3,458,000 bags and 1,120,000 bags, respectively. Pinto, Great Northern, and Pea and Medium White varieties comprised 78 percent of the bean in storage June 1, 1944.

Smaller Supplies in Prospect for Civilians in 1944-45

Prospective civilian supplies of dry beans for the year beginning September 1, 1944, will permit a per capita consumption of nearly 9 pounds, about 10 percent less than is tentatively estimated for 1943-44.

Prices for Beans Continue at Support-Price Levels

Prices received by farmers for dry edible beans have been at or near support-price levels all season. Prices the 15 of each month advanced sharpl from $5.71 per 100 pounds in September 1943 to $6.07 in October and then advanced gradually to $6.13 in June 1944. The season average price received

by farmers for the 1943 crop is estimated at $6.04 per 100 pounds, 17 percent higher than the $5.16 received for the 1942 crop. Prices for the 1944 crop will be supported by the Government at prices the same as or slightly higher than those under the program for the 1943 crop. Details on the Government price-support program for the 1944 crop were presented in the April 1944 issue of "The Vegetable Situation."

DRY FIELD PEAS

Dry Field Pea Crop of 9.8 Million Bags Expected

The production of dry field peas for the 5-year 1935-39 period averaged about 2.5 million bags (100 pounds, uncleaned) per year. The 10.9 million-bag production in 1943 was more than four times the 1935-39 annual average. The 1944 indicated production is 9.8 million bags. The State of Washington, it is expected, will produce about 56 percent, and the State of Idaho about 29 percent of the total 1944 United States crop.

Stocks on June 1 Larger Than Year Earlier

Stocks of dry peas on June 1, 1944, were much larger than a year earlier. There were 129,000 bags (100 pounds each, uncleaned) on farms June 1 compared with only 17,000 on June 1 last year. In commercial storage, stocks on June 1 this year amounted to 2,864,000 bags (cleaned basis) compared with 758,000 on the same date in 1943.

Relatively Little Change in Prices

The average price received by farmers on June 15 for dry field peas was $4.90 per 100 pounds or 24 cents more than the June 15, 1943, price. The 1943 season average price was $4.92 per 100 pounds, and for the 1942 season it was $4.48. Between January and June of this year the average monthly price has ranged between $4.78 and $4.90 per 100 pounds. The 1944 price-support program was described in the April issue of "The Vegetable Situation."

CONSUMPTION OF VEGETABLES, UNITED STATES, 1909-43 1/

By Richard S. Berberich

Truck Crops for Fresh Consumption (Total truck crops, excluding town and city gardens)

Total civilian consumption of fresh truck crops in the United States almost doubled during the 35-year period 1909-43. During this period consumption ranged from a low of about 17 billion pounds in 1911 to a high of approximately 33 billion pounds in 1942. Per capita consumption increased over one-fourth during the past 35 years. Annual per capita consumption was 189 pounds during 1910-14, 205 pounds in 1920-24, 210 pounds during 1925-29, 235 pounds in 1935-39 and reached a high of 251 pounds in 1942.

1/ Consumption data of fresh truck crops, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, and dry edible beans are on a farm weight basis. Canned vegetables and frozen vegetables are in terms of net canned weight and net frozen weight, respectively.

TRENDS IN CIVILIAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF VEGETABLES, UNITED STATES, 1909-43

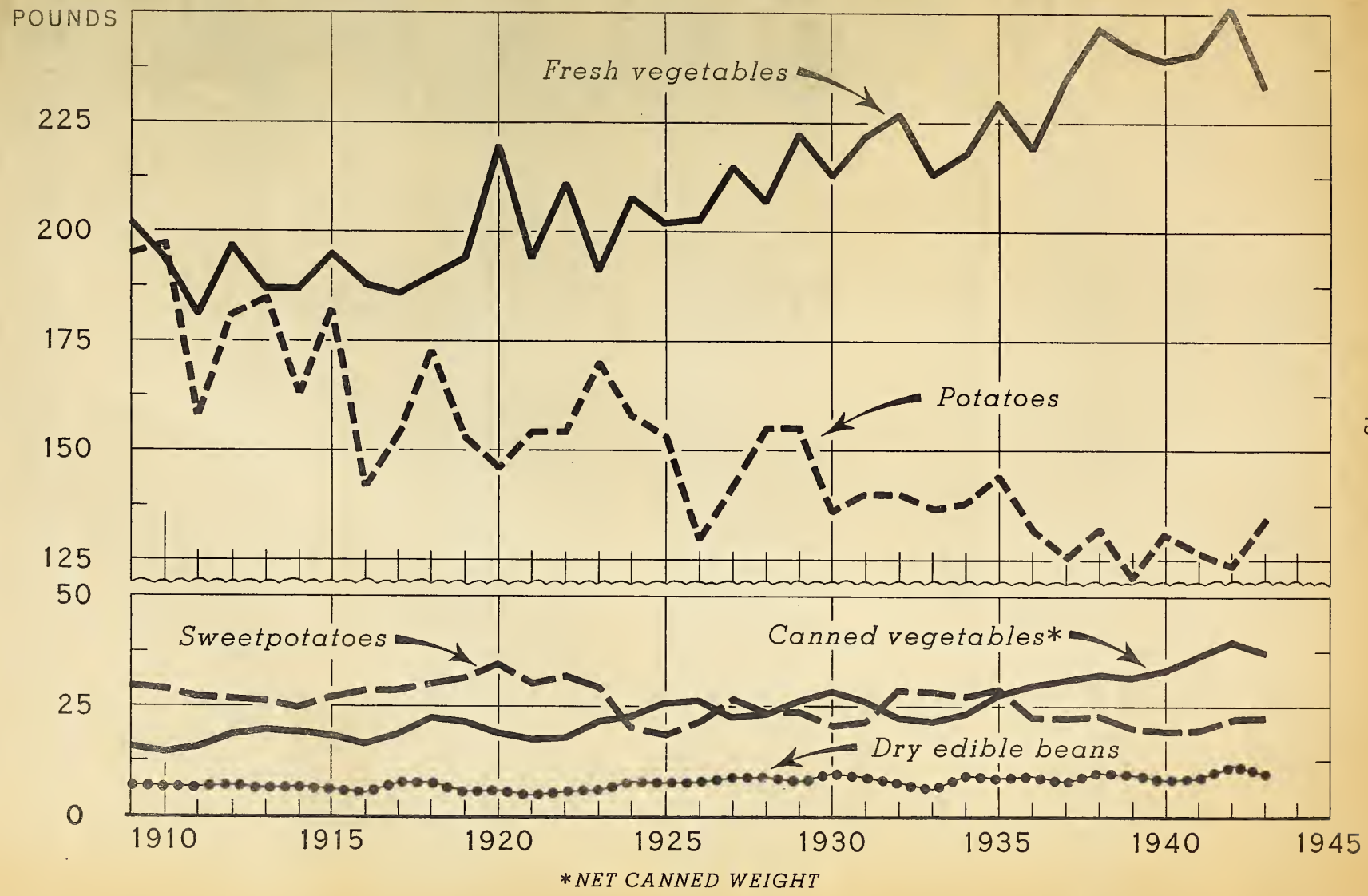

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FIGURE 2

Data on individual truck crops are available only since 1918. Apparent per capita consumption of leafy, green, and yellow vegetables in the aggregate was one-fifth larger on an average during the period 1935-39 than during the 1920-24 period -- 88 pounds as compared with 74 pounds.

Approximately one-eighth more tomatoes were consumed per capita in the early forties than in the early twenties -- about 29 pounds as compared with 26 pounds. The level of per capita consumption of onions, in contrast, remained almost unchanged during the period 1918-43, averaging about 21 pounds but varying from a low of 18 pounds in 1931 and 1934 to a high of 24 pounds in 1939 and 1942. The trend in average annual per capita consumption of melons during this 26-year period remained at a level of about 34 pounds, but per capita consumption ranged from 26 pounds in 1918 to 38 pounds in 1931.

Aggregate per capita consumption of all other fresh vegetables was 51 pounds during 1920-24, 62 pounds during 1935-39, and reached a high of about 69 pounds in 1942.

Commercial Canned Vegetables

Total civilian consumption of commercially packed canned vegetables quadrupled during the 35-year period 1909-43, increasing from approximately 1.3 billion pounds in 1910 to a high of 5.3 billion pounds in 1942. Per capita consumption of commercially packed canned vegetables more than doubled during the same 35-year period. The average annual per capita consumption of all canned vegetables was 17.5 pounds during the 1910-14 period, compared with 30.4 pounds during 1935-39 and the peak of 39.7 pounds in 1942.

A fourfold increase in per capita consumption of canned peas occurred from 1909 to 1943, reaching a high of 6.3 pounds in 1942 and 1943. Consumption of canned corn during this 35-year period approximately doubled, attaining a peak of 5.5 pounds in 1942. The per capita consumption of canned whole tomatoes, in contrast to that of peas and corn, has remained near the same level since 1909 but varied from a low of 4.4 pounds in 1921 to a high of 7.2 pounds in 1914 and 1913. Per capita consumption of other canned vegetables and vegetable products approximately quadrupled from 1909 to 1943, with tomato juice, snap beans, and spinach contributing to the greater part of this increase.

Frozen Vegetables

The frozen vegetable industry has rapidly expanded in recent years. The frozen pack of approximately 230 million pounds in 1943 was 34 percent larger than in 1942 and 170 percent larger than the 1937-41 average. Civilian per capita consumption increased from 0.4 pound in 1937 to 1.1 pounds in 1942. Large January 1 carry-over stocks and military requirements resulted in a decrease in civilian consumption in 1943 as compared with 1942.

Potatoes

Total civilian consumption of potatoes remained at approximately a constant level during the 35-year period 1909-43. Consumption varied from a

low of 14.4 billion pounds in 1916 to a high of 19.0 billion pounds in 1923. In 1942, consumption was 16.4 billion pounds. Average annual per capita consumption declined from 177 pounds during the period 1910-14 to 131 pounds during the period 1935-39, a decrease of about one-fourth. Per capita consumption exceeded 140 pounds only once in the decade 1934-43, namely in 1935. This decrease in per capita consumption of potatoes probably can be attributed in large part to the increase in consumption of fresh and processed truck crops.

Sweetpotatoes

Total civilian consumption of sweetpotatoes has varied widely during the period 1909-43. Consumption increased during the World War I years and the early twenties, declined in the late twenties, increased again during the depression of the thirties, and then declined during the late thirties and early forties.

The trend in per capita consumption of sweetpotatoes has been downward, although this trend was interrupted during World War I and again in the thirties. The average annual per capita consumption of sweetpotatoes was about 27 pounds during 1910-14 and 24 pounds in 1935-39. Per capita consumption exceeded 23 pounds only twice during the 10 years 1934-43.

Dry Edible Beans

Total civilian consumption of dry beans (cleaned basis) approximately doubled during the 35-year period 1909-43. Per capita consumption increased by about one-third, averaging 8.8 pounds annually during 1935-39 as compared with 6.5 pounds annually in 1910-14. Peak civilian consumption, 11.3 pounds per capita, was in 1942. Larger supplies in 1943 than in 1942 were more than offset by increased noncivilian requirements.

Table 1.- Vegetables, frozen: Cold-storage holdings, July 1, 1944, with comparisons

Commodity	1943				1944			
	Apr. 1	May 1	June 1	July 1	Apr. 1	May 1	June 1	July 1
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Asparagus	4,007	3,926	4,841	4,559	3,157	2,643	5,303	7,180
Beans, baked	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	2,401
Beans, lima	10,359	8,838	7,437	4,809	6,954	4,826	3,761	2,322
Beans, snap	3,113	2,308	1,886	2,676	10,631	8,393	6,216	5,171
Broccoli, green	1,360	1,113	958	821	3,342	3,148	3,091	3,049
Brussels sprouts	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1,698
Cauliflower	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1,233
Corn, sweet	3,984	3,123	2,282	1,420	10,521	8,067	5,[illegible]	3,787
Peas, green	20,295	16,025	13,503	16,305	28,051	21,035	14,956	23,324
Pumpkin and squash	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	2,274
Spinach	5,321	6,539	6,910	6,845	9,746	8,999	10,404	11,699
Vegetable purees	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	524
Other vegetables	22,039	20,204	18,872	36,453	57,913	49,065	49,471	50,574
Total	70,478	62,076	56,689	73,888	130,315	106,176	98,910	115,236

Compiled from reports of the Office of Distribution.

1/ Included in "Other vegetables."

Table 2.- Truck crops for market: Commercial acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Crop and seasonal group 1/	Acreage: Average 1933-42	Acreage: 1943	Acreage: Preliminary 1944	Unit	Yield per acre: Average 1933-42	Yield per acre: 1943	Yield per acre: 1944	Production: Average 1933-42	Production: 1943	Production: Indicated 1944
	Acres	Acres	Acres					Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
Asparagus: 2/										
Early spring	90,140	89,170	88,160	Crate	87	95	97	7,810	8,509	8,565
Late spring	30,710	43,280	42,850	"	115	114	123	3,556	4,931	5,287
Beans, lima:										
Spring	7,330	7,500	6,450	Bu.	53	61	65	392	454	422
Summer	9,610	8,700	8,890	"	73	70	80	701	606	707
Beans, snap:										
Spring	69,670	61,500	57,000	"	75	82	69	5,162	5,018	3,920
Early summer	22,710	33,150	34,350	"	114	110	121	2,611	3,650	4,156
Late summer	8,480	16,500	14,300	"	99	114	108	851	1,873	1,542
Beets:										
Spring	2,450	1,450	1,380	"	183	163	153	446	237	211
Summer	2,530	3,250	3,150	"	315	278	284	794	902	894
Cabbage: 3/										
Spring	28,910	23,990	27,370	Ton	5.07	4.39	4.56	146.0	105.3	124.8
Early summer	13,560	13,900	14,420	"	6.25	6.24	6.98	83.3	86.7	100.7
Late summer	22,660	17,330	18,330	"	7.10	6.99	7.74	160.9	121.1	141.8
Early fall (Domestic)	30,600	30,870	38,400	"	8.48	7.78	---	259.9	240.3	---
Early fall (Danish)	33,300	32,100	4/ 41,620	"	8.61	8.64	---	287.6	277.2	---
Late fall	3,910	6,400	4/ 6,000	"	6.65	5.52	---	25.6	35.3	---
Cantaloups:										
Spring	19,500	10,000	17,050	Crate	129	171	147	2,520	1,706	2,508
Early summer	19,260	14,450	16,500	"	92	117	101	1,716	1,688	1,667
Mid-summer	44,190	35,110	46,690	"	107	120	126	4,726	4,202	5,891
Late summer	21,020	10,850	13,780	"	105	98	---	2,207	1,058	---
Carrots:										
Spring	7,660	15,200	10,600	Bu.	384	383	355	2,934	5,822	3,759
Summer	5,200	8,430	7,650	"	354	331	321	1,847	2,787	2,457
Cauliflower:										
Spring	8,890	7,040	7,580	Crate	302	314	307	2,688	2,213	2,326
Summer	6,750	6,450	7,650	"	251	319	295	1,718	2,055	2,255

Continued -

Table 2.- Truck crops for market: Commercial acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944- Continued

Crop and seasonal group 1/	Acreage: Average 1933-42	Acreage: 1943	Acreage: Preliminary 1944	Unit	Yield per acre: Average 1933-42	Yield per acre: 1943	Yield per acre: 1944	Production: Average 1933-42	Production: 1943	Production: Indicated 1944
	Acres	Acres	Acres					Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
Celery:										
Spring	3,910	3,750	4,550	Crate	588	578	582	2,303	2,167	2,648
Summer	5,520	4,860	5,250	"	403	409	438	2,225	1,988	2,301
Corn, sweet:										
Summer	47,720	51,200	54,000	Ear	4,973	5,156	5,256	237,525	264,000	283,800
Cucumbers:										
Spring	26,660	16,150	20,650	Bu.	91	98	89	2,411	1,585	1,831
Early summer	9,750	8,600	9,800	"	126	136	134	1,227	1,167	1,315
Late summer	5,620	5,240	6,090	"	130	133	130	729	697	790
Eggplant:										
Spring	770	700	1,200	"	350	300	325	266	210	390
Summer	1,780	2,000	2,170	"	228	222	228	406	445	495
Honeyball melons:										
Spring	3,270	950	1,040	Crate	130	140	150	409	133	156
Summer	5/ 420	---	---	"	5/ 156	---	---	5/ 65	---	---
Honeydew melons:										
Spring	4,680	1,950	3,040	"	272	220	200	1,280	429	608
Summer	7,030	6,530	9,680	"	240	306	282	1,657	2,000	2,730
Lettuce:										
Spring	53,580	42,420	56,460	"	126	175	159	6,710	7,427	8,957
Summer	29,680	26,200	30,800	"	157	208	182	4,574	5,443	5,619
Onions:										
Spring	64,850	48,950	92,350	Sack	43	54	47	2,732	2,633	4,333
Early summer	8,410	5,750	8,150	"	139	142	170	1,156	815	1,387
Late summer	56,730	54,740	75,000	"	208	209	---	11,799	11,458	---
Peas, green:										
Spring	51,330	26,800	33,120	Bu.	77	113	96	3,891	3,019	3,183
Summer	19,740	21,290	23,850	"	99	93	104	1,976	1,990	2,471
Peppers, green:										
Spring	2,900	2,700	3,400	"	257	220	250	716	594	850
Early summer	3,280	3,320	4,550	"	174	186	137	571	616	625
Late summer	8,890	10,400	11,150	"	253	185	201	2,244	1,928	2,241

Continued -

Table 2.- Truck crops for market: Commercial acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944 - Continued

Crop and seasonal group 1/	Acreage: Average 1933-42	Acreage: 1943	Acreage: Preliminary 1944	Unit	Yield per acre: Average 1933-42	Yield per acre: 1943	Yield per acre: 1944	Production: Average 1933-42	Production: 1943	Production: Indicated 1944
	Acres	Acres	Acres					Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
Shallots:										
Spring	5/ 2,370	2,300	2,100	Bu.	5/ 127	85	100	5/ 296	196	210
Spinach:										
Spring	10,370	11,990	12,500	"	287	288	284	2,965	3,451	3,554
Summer	4,360	5,900	7,050	"	373	296	266	1,614	1,745	1,873
Tomatoes:										
Spring	82,080	92,850	113,400	"	79	78	71	6,502	7,270	8,070
Early summer	34,040	37,680	37,220	"	126	134	130	4,314	5,058	4,855
Late summer	47,480	54,350	53,050	"	166	175	174	7,874	9,499	9,208
Early fall	13,790	18,500	14,300	"	151	146	---	2,079	2,702	---
Watermelons:										
Late spring	28,210	16,500	33,000	Melon	344	393	317	9,636	6,482	10,463
Early summer	196,720	108,300	158,900	"	231	311	265	45,224	33,657	42,048
Late summer	27,510	16,900	20,250	"	363	462	446	9,974	7,809	9,037
Total acreage estimated to date:										
Winter	239,780	238,790	303,850							
Spring	599,310	527,140	635,250							
Summer	690,600	591,380	702,670							
Fall	81,600	87,870	100,320							
Total	1,611,290	1,445,180	1,742,090							
Total estimated to date where 1944 production is indicated	1,451,940	1,291,720	1,552,990	Ton	3.15	3.53	3.49	4,575.9	4,559.2	5,425.2
Garlic	4,050	3,350	3,300	Sack	38.8	39.1	47.9	158	131	158

1/ Data for winter truck crops are not shown in this report. The information is available in the Vegetable Situation for April 1944.

2/ Includes asparagus for processing in California and undetermined quantities in other States.

3/ Includes cabbage used in the manufacture of kraut.

4/ Intended.

5/ Short-time average.

Table 3.- Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale prices for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted) at New York and Chicago, indicated periods, 1943 and 1944

Market and commodity	Unit	1943 Month June	1943 Week ended July 17	1944 Month Apr.	1944 Month May	1944 Month June	1944 Week ended July 15
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
New York							
Asparagus, med. to large	12-bunch crt.	3.42	4.70	3.77	4.10	3.84	2.84
Beans, lima	Bu.	4.62	5.25	5.62	4.69	4.65	3.25
Beans, snap, green	"	2.86	2.62	4.06	3.78	2.87	1.58
Beets, bunched	1/2 L.A. crt.	2.39	---	1.91	2.55	2.20	---
" topped, eastern	Bu. or 50-lb. sack	1.84	1.18	.85	1.83	1.40	.94
Broccoli, western	Pony crt.	1/6.25	---	6.83	6.61	4.97	---
" eastern	12-bunch crt.	1/2.62	2.92	---	---	3.00	2.38
Cabbage, domestic	50-lb. sack	1.99	---	2.08	2.02	1.59	1.06
Cantaloups, Calif.	Jumbo 36 and 45	8.80	6.29	---	---	9.80	5.28
Carrots, bunched, western	L.A. crt.	4.57	6.02	4.02	4.17	4.64	4.74
" topped, Texas	Bu.	2.28	2.25	1.98	2.19	2.39	---
" " eastern	"	---	1.65	1.41	1.80	---	2.42
Cauliflower, western	Pony crt.	3.76	---	3.23	3.93	2.78	---
" Catskill, N.Y.	12-head crt.	---	4.35	---	---	---	3.52
Celery, Golden Heart:							
Fla.	16-inch crt.	8.66	---	3.07	7.06	9.94	---
Eastern	1/2 crt.	8.20	2.22	---	---	7.18	2.95
Corn, sweet, Texas yellow	1/2 sack	2.86	---	---	3.28	3.84	3.19
Cucumbers	Bu.	6.47	2.50	5.70	5.19	3.80	1.89
Eggplant, Fla.	"	2.98	---	2/2.15	2.97	2.14	3.01
Honey Balls, Calif.	Std. crt.	8.59	5.96	---	---	9.32	6.80
Honey Dews, Calif.	" "	4.75	3.56	---	---	6.32	3.68
Kale	Bu.	.72	.77	.86	.66	.74	.75
Lettuce, Iceberg type	L.A. crt.	6.28	5.62	4.93	5.26	4.35	3.70
Onions, yellow Bermuda	50-lb. sack	2.98	---	3.83	2.50	2.25	2.86
" " eastern	" " "	---	2.49	1/2.96	---	2.16	2.44
Peas, green, western	Bu.	3.70	4.21	3.39	3.57	2.85	3.12
" " other States	"	2.20	2.60	2.35	2.33	1.93	1.50
Peppers, green	"	4.38	1.88	2.52	3.79	3.03	2.68
Spinach, Savoy type	"	.81	1.59	1.34	.89	1.02	1.34
Squash, yellow	"	2.27	1.15	4.18	3.89	1.89	.81
Tomatoes, all sizes	Lug box	3/3.86	4.06	3.73	3.41	4.43	3.64
Watermelons	Carload	1,029	657	---	1,370	1,002	484
Chicago							
Asparagus, med. to large	12-bunch crt.	2.86	---	4.20	2.75	2.80	---
Beans, snap, green	Bu.	2.93	4.85	3.72	3.83	3.42	2.45
Beets, bunched, Texas	1/2 L.A. crt.	---	---	1.66	2.52	---	---
" topped, Texas	50-lb. sack	2.90	2.17	1.09	1.53	1.33	.98
" " midwestern	Bu.	---	---	.72	---	---	1.00
Broccoli, western	Pony crt.	5.39	---	6.71	5.96	3.82	---
Cabbage, domestic	L.A. crt.	4.25	---	2.50	---	3.25	---
" "	50-lb. sack	2.87	1.23	1.83	1.62	1.74	1.48
Cantaloups, Calif.	Jumbo 36 and 45	8.20	5.22	---	---	8.87	4.40

Continued -

Table 3.- Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale prices for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted) at New York and Chicago, indicated periods, 1943 and 1944 - Continued

Market and commodity	Unit	1943 Month June	1943 Week ended July 17	1944 Month Apr.	1944 Month May	1944 Month June	1944 Week ended July 15
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Chicago (cont'd)							
Carrots, bunched, western	L.A. crt.	3.68	4.68	3.10	3.31	4.20	4.54
" " Texas	" " "	---	---	2.50	3.10	---	---
" topped, midwestern	Bu.	---	---	1.21	---	---	1.50
Cauliflower, western	Pony crt.	2.90	4.00	3.02	3.66	2.61	3.19
Celery, Golden Heart:							
Fla.	16-inch crt.	8.77	---	3.17	7.13	10.00	---
Mich.	Square crt.	---	1.45	---	---	---	1.75
Corn, sweet, yellow	Bu.	2.77	2.80	---	4/3.04	4/3.64	4/2.25
Cucumbers	"	5.83	5.45	6.16	5.36	3.50	2.60
Eggplant, Fla.	1-1/2 bu. crt.	4.02	---	3.23	4.25	3.75	---
" other States	Bu.	3.56	2.00	---	---	2.30	1.92
Honey Dews, Calif.	Jumbo crt.	4.60	3.42	---	---	5.38	3.12
Lettuce, Iceberg type	L.A. crt.	6.25	3.92	4.29	4.68	4.44	3.00
Onions, yellow Bermuda	50-lb. sack	2.70	---	4.78	2.23	2.25	2.39
" "	" " "	2.83	2.33	---	---	2.25	2.10
Peas, green, western	Bu.	4.45	3.74	3.23	3.40	2.83	2.90
Peppers, Bull Nose type:							
Fla.	1-1/2 bu. crt.	---	---	4.93	6.00	---	---
Other States	Bu.	3.85	1.75	---	---	2.88	2.65
Spinach, Texas	"	---	---	1.43	---	---	---
" midwestern	"	1.18	1.94	---	1.25	1.40	1.78
Squash, yellow, Fla.	"	---	---	2.00	---	---	---
" " Ill.	"	2.32	2.09	---	---	2.64	.88
Tomatoes, all sizes	Lug box	3.74	4.02	3.75	3.83	4.27	3.75
Watermelons	Melon	.85	.56	---	1.35	.93	.70

Compiled from records of the Office of Distribution.

1/ Less than 10 quotations.

2/ 1-1/2 bushel crate price converted to bushel.

3/ Weighted average.

4/ 1/2 sack instead of bushel.

Table 4.- Truck crops and potatoes: Carlot (rail and boat) shipments from originating points in the United States, indicated periods in 1944, with comparisons 1/

Commodity	1943 Month April	1943 Month May	1943 Month June	1943 Week ended July 24	1944 Month April	1944 Month May	1944 Month June	1944 Week ended July 22
	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars
Asparagus	1,384	71	28	---	1,366	121	25	---
Beans, snap and lima	1,099	1,724	872	29	1,064	871	484	48
Beets	280	209	100	3	334	164	21	---
Broccoli	81	80	8	---	87	94	12	4
Cabbage	1,678	2,568	1,028	69	3,766	3,789	875	57
Cantaloups	---	851	4,355	442	---	20	4,799	1,269
Carrots	3,166	3,736	2,520	318	2,981	3,336	2,734	329
Casaba melons	---	---	---	6	---	---	---	4
Cauliflower	264	269	95	---	592	284	324	9
Celery	1,553	1,623	433	86	2,222	1,556	447	94
Corn, green	7	580	461	19	137	555	351	23
Cucumbers	99	415	571	26	100	345	918	41
Eggplant	17	52	85	1	37	83	70	---
Escarole	189	51	---	---	108	11	---	---
Greens, except spinach	82	42	8	1	195	45	10	---
Honey Ball melons	---	5	204	---	---	1	110	8
Honey Dew melons	---	---	434	360	---	---	206	418
Lettuce and romaine	4,993	5,883	3,198	878	5,936	8,111	3,991	1,311
Mixed melons	---	31	247	2	---	1	288	21
Mixed vegetables	3,855	4,029	1,722	383	3,804	2,708	1,859	447
Onions	3,689	1,895	1,419	208	3,906	3,871	2,622	390
Peas, green	782	1,210	241	223	535	921	440	132
Peppers, green	127	189	249	22	290	316	340	26
Persian melons	---	---	6	---	---	---	---	2
Spinach	990	215	83	28	755	137	36	19
Sweetpotatoes	295	67	7	104	493	153	12	50
Tomatoes	581	5,279	5,829	241	1,485	6,403	5,215	354
Turnips and rutabagas	29	64	48	7	56	32	18	5
Watermelons	---	365	6,003	2,598	---	1,437	9,078	3,801
Total of above	25,240	31,503	30,254	6,054	30,549	35,375	35,285	8,862
Potatoes:								
Early	1,985	17,039	24,151	1,113	3,814	13,245	23,145	446
Intermediate	---	---	1,764	2,465	31	19	1,589	1,096
Late, surplus	10,806	1,736	517	1,300	16,286	7,880	2,029	1,399
Late, other	46	73	691	38	425	413	694	74
Total potatoes	12,837	18,848	27,123	4,916	20,556	21,557	27,457	3,015
Grand total	38,077	50,351	57,377	10,970	51,105	56,932	62,742	11,877

Compiled from reports of the Office of Distribution.

1/ Does not include shipments by motortruck. Includes Government purchases.

Table 5.- Truck crops for processing: Planted acreage and estimated production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Commodity	Planted acreage: 1933-42 average	Planted acreage: 1943	Planted acreage: Preliminary 1944	Planted acreage: 1944 as a percentage of 1943	Production: 1933-42 average	Production: 1943	Production: Indicated 1944
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Percent	Tons	Tons	Tons
Asparagus, California	46,030	40,400	1/(45,000)	---	50,720	44,040	---
Beans, green lima 2/	44,960	64,220	66,090	102.9	24,590	27,360	---
Beans, snap	69,980	179,300	179,040	99.9	110,600	261,900	274,400
Beets	11,670	19,200	22,200	115.6	67,300	139,500	---
Cabbage for kraut	20,520	15,550	20,200	129.9	160,900	107,600	---
Corn, sweet	378,130	553,110	526,380	95.2	803,100	1,162,020	---
Cucumbers for pickles	96,360	96,660	99,280	102.7	141,408	149,784	---
Peas, green 2/	333,600	483,260	482,150	99.8	260,260	410,670	402,940
Pimientos	14,520	10,990	7,980	72.6	17,700	8,570	---
Spinach 3/	15,597	13,130	20,450	155.8	40,320	40,700	67,400
Tomatoes	449,400	602,430	605,650	100.5	2,010,800	2,659,100	---
Total	1,480,767	2,078,250	2,074,420	99.8	3,687,698	5,011,244	---

1/ Rough estimate.
2/ Production reported on shelled basis.
3/ California and Texas only.

Table 6.- Potatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Group and state	Acreage: Harvested 1933-42 average	Acreage: Harvested 1943	Acreage: For harvest 1944	Yield per acre: 1933-42 average	Yield per acre: 1943	Yield per acre: Indicated 1944	Production: 1933-42 average	Production: 1943	Production: Indicated 1944
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
Early:									
12 States	456.4	636.6	585.5	94.1	104.2	92.6	43,191	66,339	54,218
Intermediate:									
7 States	287.3	304.9	278.9	110.2	114.1	97.5	31,444	34,774	27,206
Late surplus:									
3 Eastern	563	592	577	167.9	205.8	187.2	94,419	121,819	107,996
5 Central	896	858	739	85.6	102.7	97.6	75,654	88,084	72,155
10 Western	459.7	584.0	512.9	175.2	202.4	201.8	79,747	118,210	103,505
18 States	1,918.8	2,034.0	1,828.9	131.6	161.3	155.1	249,821	328,113	283,656
Late, other:									
5 New England	60.7	77.0	73.4	151.3	142.2	158.5	9,163	10,947	11,634
5 Central	315	257	234	92.9	88.8	88.7	28,699	22,833	20,764
2 Southwestern	6.4	12.5	12.1	92.6	132.0	135.4	594	1,650	1,638
12 States	382.4	346.5	319.5	102.2	102.3	106.5	38,456	35,430	34,036
Late, total:									
30 States	2,301.2	2,380.5	2,148.4	126.8	152.7	147.9	288,276	363,543	317,692
37 late and intermediate	2,588.5	2,685.4	2,427.3	124.9	148.3	142.1	319,721	398,317	344,898
Total, United States	3,044.9	3,322.0	3,012.8	120.1	139.9	132.5	362,912	464,656	399,116

Table 7.- Potatoes: Unweighted average prices per 100 pounds (except where otherwise noted) for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted) at shipping points and terminal markets, indicated periods, 1943 and 1944

Location and variety	1943 Month June	1943 Week ended July 17	1944 Month Apr.	1944 Month May	1944 Month June	1944 Week ended July 15
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. shipping points:						
Lower Rio Grande Valley, Bliss Triumph (50-lb. sack)	---	---	1.99	---	---	---
Hastings section, Florida, Katahdin and Sebago	---	---	3.86	4.00	---	---
Kern County, Calif., Long White	---	---	3.31	3.16	2.36	---
Mobile, Ala., Bliss Triumph	2.80	---	---	2.93	---	---
Charleston, S. C., Cobbler	1/2.94	---	---	3.25	3.16	---
Washington, N. C., Cobbler 2/	2.57	2.41	---	---	2.73	---
Onley, Va., Cobbler	2.84	2.60	---	---	2.96	2.98
Orrick section, Mo., Cobbler	---	2.16	---	---	---	2.61
Kaw Valley, Kansas, Cobbler	---	2.25	---	---	---	2.83
Presque Isle, Maine (old crop)	---	---	2.26	2.63	---	---
Terminal markets:						
New York:						
Bliss Triumph, Fla. (50-lb. sack)	2.98	---	3.68	2.66	2.45	---
" " Tex. (50-lb. sack)	---	---	3.02	2.46	---	---
" " Ala.	3/4.47	---	---	4.06	---	---
Katahdin, Fla.	4.81	---	4.70	4.45	---	---
Long White, Calif.	4.87	4.34	---	5.54	4.10	4.27
Cobbler, S. C. and N. C.	4/3.67	2.46	---	4.25	3.42	3.27
Cobbler, Va.	3.52	2.79	---	---	3.37	3.18
Cobbler, N. Y.	---	2.37	---	---	---	2.80
Green Mountain, Maine (old crop)	---	---	2.79	3.11	3.24	---
Chicago:						
Bliss Triumph, Fla. (50-lb. sack)	---	---	3.55	---	---	---
" " Tex. (50-lb. sack)	---	---	2.70	---	---	---
" " Ala. 2/	3.95	---	---	3.40	---	---
" " La. 2/	1/3.93	---	---	3.48	3.64	---
" " Ark.	1/3.29	3.63	---	---	3.72	3.83
" " all States (100-lb.) 5/	3.72	3.37	6/2.90	3.77	3.99	5.42
Long White, Calif.	4.12	4.18	---	4.59	3.55	4.20
Cobblers, all States	---	2.90	2.00	---	---	3.35

Compiled from records of the Office of Distribution.

1/ Victory grade. 2/ Unwashed. 3/ Less than 10 quotations. 4/ North Carolina. 5/ Includes Victory grade. 6/ Old stock.

Table 8.- Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Group and State	Acreage: Harvested 1933-42 average	Acreage: Harvested 1943	Acreage: For harvest 1944	Yield per acre: 1933-42 average	Yield per acre: 1943	Yield per acre: Indicated 1944	Production: 1933-42 average	Production: 1943	Production: Indicated 1944
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
Central Atlantic 1/	62	59	60	126	95	120	7,824	5,631	7,215
Lower Atlantic 2/	271	309	293	83	83	75	22,608	25,703	21,872
South Central 3/	430	488	440	78	78	77	33,453	37,920	34,044
North Central 4/	23.6	20.8	19.5	86	87	93	2,026	1,818	1,822
California	11	12	12	114	125	120	1,269	1,500	1,440
Total, United States	797.7	888.8	824.5	84.3	81.7	80.5	67,182	72,572	66,393

1/ New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia.
2/ North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.
3/ Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.
4/ Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas.

Table 9.- Sweetpotatoes: Unweighted average wholesale prices per bushel for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted), at New York and Chicago, indicated periods, 1943 and 1944

Market and type	1943: Month: June	1943: Week ended July 17	1944: Month: Apr.	1944: Month: May	1944: Month: June	1944: Week ended July 15
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
New York						
Golden:						
Maryland and Virginia	---	---	4.94	---	4.25	5.25
New Jersey	---	---	4.75	---	---	---
Florida	---	6.70	---	---	---	5.25
Jersey:						
New Jersey	7.36	7.15	4.50	4.75	4.64	4.75
Porto Rican:						
North and South Carolina	8.04	---	4.41	4.67	4.80	---
Louisiana	---	---	4.46	---	---	---
Average, all varieties	7.36	7.00	4.46	4.70	4.60	5.10
Chicago						
Nancy Hall:						
Illinois	---	---	4.00	4.44	---	---
Tennessee	---	---	3.08	3.42	3.75	3.75
Porto Rican:						
Illinois	---	---	4.18	---	---	---
Louisiana	7.67	6.50	4.06	4.29	4.50	6.25
Tennessee	---	---	3.58	---	---	---
Texas	7.68	---	---	---	---	---
Triumph:						
Alabama	---	6.28	---	---	---	6.25
Average, all varieties	7.62	6.40	3.60	4.09	4.20	5.40

Compiled from records of the Office of Distribution.

Table 10.- Beans, dry, edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Group of States	Acreage: Harvested: Average 1933-42	Acreage: Harvested: 1943	Acreage: For harvest 1944	Yield per acre: Average 1933-42	Yield per acre: 1943	Yield per acre: Indicated 1944	Production 1/: Average 1933-42	Production 1/: 1943	Production 1/: Indicated 1944
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Maine, Vt., N. Y., Mich., Wis., and Minn. 2/	704	753	796	821	852	831	5,782	6,414	6,612
Nebr., Mont., Idaho, Wyo., Wash., Oreg., N. Dak., and S. Dak. 3/	204	426	328	1,350	1,275	1,380	2,754	5,430	4,526
Kans., Colo., N. Mex., Ariz., Utah, and Tex. 4/	496	779	627	430	528	504	2,132	4,110	3,159
Calif. 5/	350	442	411	1,272	1,169	1,231	4,470	5,169	5,061
Total, United States ...	1,756	2,400	2,162	858.7	880.1	895.4	15,133	21,123	19,358

1/ Bags of 100 pounds, uncleaned beans; includes beans for seed.
2/ Largely pea beans, but most important source also of Red Kidney, Yelloweye, and Cranberry.
3/ Largely Great Northern, but Idaho also is the most important source of Small Reds. North and South Dakota included in 1943 and 1944.
4/ Largely Pinto beans. Texas included in 1943 and 1944.
5/ Miscellaneous varieties, mostly Lima, Baby Lima, Blackeye, Small White, and Pink.

Table 11.- Peas, dry, field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944 1/

State	Acreage: Harvested: Average 1933-42	Acreage: Harvested: 1943	Acreage: For harvest 1944	Yield per acre: Average 1933-42	Yield per acre: 1943	Yield per acre: Indicated 1944	Production: Average 1933-42	Production: 1943	Production: Indicated 1944
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/	1,000 bags 2/
Mich. ..	8	1	---	762	650	---	60	6	---
Wis. ...	11	8	3	750	870	800	79	70	24
N. Dak.	---	10	10	---	950	900	---	95	90
Mont. ..	26	56	36	1,097	1,120	1,180	283	627	425
Idaho ..	77	241	222	1,130	1,380	1,300	873	3,326	2,886
Wyo. ...	---	2	1	---	1,200	1,200	---	24	12
Colo. ..	16	34	31	787	800	1,050	132	272	326
Wash. ..	122	390	363	1,274	1,450	1,500	1,624	5,655	5,445
Oreg. ..	3/ 6	53	50	3/1,264	1,500	1,200	3/ 106	795	600
9 States:	266	795	716	1,153	1,367	1,370	3,148	10,870	9,808

1/ In principal commercial producing States. Includes peas grown for seed and cannery peas harvested dry.
2/ Bags of 100 pounds (uncleaned). 3/ Short-time average.

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